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IMMEDIATELY

UM NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
RECEIVES \$18,000 FROM HEWlenihan/rb
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MISSOULA--

The Native American Studies Program at the University of Montana in Missoula has received \$18,000 from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the "Montana Ethno-Botanical Research Project for Curriculum Development."

According to project director Marjorie Bear Don't Walk, the Ethno-Botanical Project is being run in conjunction with a similar program started by the Flathead Indian Tribe.

The purpose of the 13-week summer program is to develop a curriculum packet for Montana's high schools and colleges. Jeff Hart, UM graduate teaching assistant in botany, is working with the Flathead Indian Tribe collecting herbs and plants and identifying their medicinal and nutritive properties.

Hart, assisted by four field assistants, gathers his information from the older members of the tribe. His assistants include three UM students--Pam Rosette, Rocky Boy Reservation in north central Montana; Susan Childers, Northern Cheyenne Reservation in southeastern Montana, and Opal Cajune, Flathead Reservation in northwestern Montana.

A fourth assistant, Al Whiteman, a commercial artist, is drawing and photographing various plants investigated on all three reservations.

An important aspect of the program, according to Bear Don't Walk, is that the individual tribes involved will be given copyrights to all the materials gathered and developed during the Ethno-Botanical Project.

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